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Listing of the Claims:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An antisense oligonucleotide consisting essentially comprising 10 or more contiguous bases of the nucleotide sequence A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, or M set forth in any one of [[()]]SEQ ID NOS: 1 and 3-13}, respectively wherein the oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and wherein the oligonucleotide is complementary to a bcl-xL-encoding mRNA and inhibits translation thereof.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An antisense oligonucleotide consisting of the nucleotide sequence B—( set forth in SEQ ID NO:2[[]]) wherein the oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and wherein the oligonucleotide is complementary to a bcl-xL-encoding mRNA and inhibits translation thereof.

10-42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the effective amount is between 0.1  $\mu$ M and 10  $\mu$ M.

44-47. (Canceled).